

Announcement of an effort to restore water quality in the following tributaries of the New River: South Fork Reed Creek, Mill Creek, Stony Fork, Tate Run, Reed Creek, Miller Creek and Cove Creek in Wythe County, Virginia

PUBLIC MEETING LOCATION: Wythe Bland Conference Room, Wythe County Community Hospital, 600 West Ridge Road, in Wytheville, Virginia, on April 19, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing the final study report to restore water quality, a public comment opportunity, and public meeting.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Final public meeting on a study to restore water quality and first meeting to develop an implementation plan

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: DEQ has been working to identify sources of bacterial contamination in South Fork Reed Creek, Mill Creek, Stony Fork, Tate Run, Reed Creek, Miller Creek and Cove Creek in Wythe County, Virginia. The streams are impaired for failure to meet the *Recreational Use* because of fecal coliform bacteria violations and violations of the E. coli standard.

During the study, the sources of bacterial contamination have been identified and total maximum daily load, or TMDL, developed for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels must be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The development of a TMDL includes public meetings and a public comment period once the study report is drafted. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, April 19, 2012 to May 18, 2012. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

TO REVIEW FACT SHEETS: Fact sheets are available for the impaired waters from the contacts below or on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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